REMARKS

The above supplemental amendment reflects an agreement reached between the Examiner and Applicants during a series of personal interviews, as summarized below. In this supplemental amendment, claims 303-311 are added

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-4494, and please credit any excess fees to the same deposit account.

Summary of Interviews

MAY 4, 2009

The prosecution of this application, along with all but two of Applicants' copending application, was suspended for several years pending the outcome of the appeal of Application Serial Nos. 08/470,571 and 08/487,526 and the reexamination proceedings of seven related patents. Applicants inquired into the status of these applications in January, 2009, as the current six-month suspension period expired. Applicants requested that the suspension of these applications not be renewed. The Office, through Supervisory Examiner David L. Ometz indicated that the suspensions would not be renewed and that prosecution would recommence. Applicants wish to thank Examiner David L. Ometz for the courtesy of the interview held on May 4, 2009 in which Applicants' representatives and the Examiners discussed an overall plan for examination of the remaining 110 applications which relate to this application and have a common chain of priority. Applicants were informed that the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) was developing a plan to resume examination and that Applicants would be informed when the plan was in place.

Applicants were informed in July, 2009, that a team of examiners had been assembled to examine Applicants' copending applications. Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' Representatives in a meeting held July 22, 2009, with the examination team. In attendance at the meeting were Thomas J. Scott, Jr. and Carl L. Benson, of Goodwin Procter and the PTO personnel identified on the attached list. Applicants' representatives made a presentation to the Examiners in attendance in accordance with the attached agenda and provided the materials attached hereto to the Examiners for their consideration and use in the further examination of this application and the other application related to this application as identified in Tab 2 of the materials provided to the Examiners in the meeting. Applicants' representatives agreed to respond to any telephone inquiries or to be present for personal interview at the PTO in any circumstance where the Examiner believed such an interview would advance the prosecution of this application.

SEPTEMBER 2010

During a telephonic interviews were held with Examiner Brian Q. Le on September 13, 2010, the Examiner indicated that he had prepared a preliminary draft of a claim that would be allowable. The Examiner agreed to provide this claim to applicants. Applicants reviewed the proposed claim language and presented a revised proposal to the Examiner. The Examiner and Applicants came to an agreement regarding allowable subject matter and proposed claim language which is reflected in the new claim 303 presented above. The Examiner requested and applicants agreed to provide the Examiner with a table detailing specifications support for the claimed language. A copy of the support table provided is included herein as Appendix A.

Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, each of the claims in this application is patentable in light of the prior art. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue an allowance of this application.

Dated: September 24, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

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Specification Support from specification of Parent Patent 4,694,490

303. A method of processing signals at a receiver station in a network, said receiver station having	Figure 6 and explanatory text in cols. 18-20.
a computer and	Microcomputer 205, Signal processor 200.
an output device	TV set 202
to deliver at the output device at least one of a combined and sequential presentation of a program and	Presentation of graphics, col. 19, l. 53 – col. 20, l. 7
a user specific output,	Graphic of user's own stocks' performance, col. 19, l. 67 – col. 20, l. 2.
with said computer having a storage device for storing user data and	Microcomputer 205 has storage capacity to hold a portfolio of stocks and related data. Col. 18, ll. 46-48, col. 19, ll. 39-41.
said output device outputting mass medium programming and other information,	TV set 202 outputs the received programming such as the "Wall Street Week" and "The French Chef" programs and the locally generated graphics. Col. 19, ll. 64 – col. 20, l. 7; col. 20, ll. 16-19.
with said network delivering at least one control signal and	Control signals are embedded in the programming received by the receiver station. Col. 20, ll. 27-28.
programming to said receiver station and	Associated data such as a recipe. Col. 20, ll. 35-36.
billing a user for use of said at least one control signal and said programming, said method comprising:	Billing for ordering and delivering associated programming. Col. 20, ll. 55-59.
a step for transmitting from a remote station to said receiver station operating instructions associated with at least one of	The receiver station is remotely programmed. Col. 9, ll. 21-23.
a command and	Request for associated programming (recipe). Col. 20, ll. 23-26.
said at least one control signal,	Control signals are embedded in the programming received by the receiver station. Col. 20, ll. 27-28.
said operating instructions being effective to program said receiver station to respond in a predetermined fashion to at least one of said	The receiver station is programmed to process the incoming instructions and programming in a predetermined fashion. Col. 20, ll. 32-43.

command and said at least one control signal;	
a step for inputting said command at an input device;	The user inputs the request to receive the recipe on local input 225. Col. 20, ll. 23-26.
a step for inputting said at least one control signal received from at least one transmitter station at said receiver station;	Control signals are embedded in the programming received by the receiver station. Col. 20, ll. 27-28.
a step for storing user data of interest;	User data, such as a stock portfolio, are stored. Col. 18, ll. 45-47.
a step for receiving from said at least one transmitter station an information transmission containing said mass medium programming;	The receiver station receives television programming such as "Wall Street Week" and "The French Chef." Col. 19, ll. 45-48; col. 20, ll. 16-19.
a step for transferring said mass medium programming contained in said information transmission to said output device;	The television programming is transferred to the TV set 202. Col. 19, l. 64 – col. 20, l. 7; col. 20, ll. 16-19.
a step for detecting in said information transmission said at least one control signal which is operative to control a receiver station apparatus;	Control signals are detected by doceder 203 in the programming received by the receiver station. Col. 20, ll. 27-28.
a step for storing at least one of a code and a datum to serve as evidence of (i) a passing of said at least one control signal to said computer and	Information indicating the reception of the control signal is recorded. Col. 20, ll. 43-47.
(ii) the functioning of said computer in response to said at least one control signal;	Information indicating the functioning of the apparatus is recorded. Col. 20, ll. 50-55.
a step for comparing information designated by said command to information designated by said at least one control signal;	Information of the control signal is compared to the user input. Col. 20, ll. 32-34.
a step for processing said programming and communicating said programming to a computer peripheral device in accordance with said operating instructions based on said step for comparing;	The recipe is decrypted and printed if ordered. Col. 20, ll. 32-49.
a step for outputting said programming at said computer peripheral device;	The recipe is printed. Col. 20, ll. 49-50.
a step for controlling said computer based on said detected at least one control signal; said step for controlling comprising:	The embedded signal instruct the computer. Col. 19, ll. 48-49.
a step for selecting at least a portion of said stored user data of interest;	A graphic overlay of based on the user's portfolio performance is selected. Col. 19, ll. 64-66.
a step for communicating said selected at least said portion of said user data of interest to said output device; and subsequently	The graphic overlay is display at the TV set 202. Col. 19, ll. 67 – col. 20, l. 2.
a step for ceasing to communicate said	The overlay is ceased to be communicated to

selected at least said portion to said output device; and	the TV set 202. Col. 20, ll. 2-5.
a step for outputting at said output device a combined or sequential output of said received mass medium programming and said selected at least said portion of said stored user data of interest in the period of time between said step for communicating said selected at least said portion of said stored user data of interest to said output device and said step for ceasing to communicate said selected at least said portion of said stored user data of interest at said output device;	The TV set 202 output the combined and sequential output of the mass medium programming and the locally generated overlays of user data during the time that an overlay is communicated to the TV set through the time the overlay is ceased to be communicated. Col. 19, l. 64 – col. 20, l. 7.
a step for programming said receiver station to process said user data of interest and to respond to said at least one control signal;	The receiver station is programmed (col. 9, ll. 21-23) to process user data in response to embedded control signals (col. 19, ll. 42-50).
a step for storing a locally input command that one of designates and specifies a television program to be one of displayed and recorded;	The computer is preinformed of the desired television program. Col. 19, ll. 5-9.
a step for controlling said computer to process a viewer reaction to one of a unit of programming and an image displayed at said output device, said step of controlling comprising:	Computer processes request for recipe. Col. 20, ll. 31-33.
a step for assembling a record that includes additional data besides said viewer reaction;	A record that the viewer ordered was placed by the viewer is assembled. Col. 20, ll. 42-45.
a step for controlling one of a processor and a computer in said network to process a viewer reaction to one of a unit of programming and an image displayed at a television monitor, said step of controlling comprising: (1) a step for detecting a datum that identifies one of a unit of programming and an image displayed at said television monitor; and (2) a step for transmitting said datum to a remote data collection site;	A user request for the recipe is detected and identifies the requested input "567" that designates the request for the recipe which is sent to a remote data collection site. Col. 20, ll. 23-59.
a step for controlling one of a processor and a computer in said network to process a viewer reaction to a one of a unit of programming and an image displayed at a television monitor, said step of controlling comprising: (1) a step for storing a datum that	A receiver station monitors the received programs and records which programs are received on which channels and transmits this data. Col. 18, ll. 32-38.

identifies one of a unit of programming and an image displayed at said television monitor; and (2) a step for passing data of (i) the availability, (ii) use and (iii) usage of programming and said data to one of a processor and computer that controls one of the selection and communication of program materials at a receiver station;	

a step for controlling one of a processor and a computer in said network to process a viewer reaction to one of a unit of programming and an image displayed at a television monitor, said step of controlling comprising:
    (1)   a step for controlling a receiver to receiver and a storage location to communicate a unit of programming associated with said unit of programming or image or in response to said viewer reaction; and
    (2)   a step for outputting said unit of programming at an output device of said receiver station;
	A receiver station receives a user request for a recipe, tunes a receiver to receive the recipe and outputs the recipe. Col. 20, ll. 16-50.

a step for selecting data that specifies ways to instruct receiver end equipment what specific programming to select to play or record other than that immediately and designating how and where to file, refile, or dispose said data; and	The receiver station selects signals that enable the station to tune to and record desired programming. Col. 19, ll. 5-29. The signals selected by receiver equipment are passed to and stored as necessary. Col. 8, l. 56 – col. 9-19.
a step for communicating, to said remote data collection site, said record including at least one datum evidencing use of at least one of said command, said at least one control signal, and said programming to enable said remote data collection site to bill a subscriber for the use of said at least one control signal or said programming.	Data is transferred to a remote site so that the user may be billed for ordering and receiving programming. Col. 20, ll. 55-59.

304. The method of claim 303, wherein said step for communicating includes communicating said record using a telephone interface.	The data is transferred via telephone. Col. 20, ll. 55-59

305. The method of claim 303 wherein said record include information designating a time.	Received data may indicate times of transmission. Col. 15, ll.57-62.

306. The method of claim 303 wherein said	Various decoders are used to identify from

record includes information designating a source of received data.	where the received signals are received. Col. 16, ll. 51-54.

307. The method of claim 303 further comprising a step for storing said record.	A data recorder stores the record. Col. 20, ll. 43-45.

308. The method of claim 303 wherein said step for selecting data includes designating data to be discarded.	Data not required for the record is discarded. Col. 7, l. 65 – col. 8, 19.

309. The method of claim 308 wherein said designated data to be discarded includes duplicate data.	Duplicate data may be discarded. Col. 7, l. 65 – col. 8, l. 1.

310. The method of claim 303 wherein said step for processing said programming includes decrypting said programming.	The incoming encrypted recipe is decrypted. Col. 20, ll. 38-43.

311. The method of claim 303 further including a step for controlling a receiver to receive a transmission including said programming based on said step for comparing.	A tuner tunes a converter to receive the appropriate channel to receive the recipe. Col. 20, ll. 31-38.